

Application No. 10/658,670

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) Modular pet furniture comprising:

a frame structure comprising a plurality of vertical support members, each vertical support member having an insertion end, a plurality of horizontal support members, each of the horizontal support members having an insertion end; at least one of said horizontal support members having a non-terminal aperture, and a plurality of joint members for interconnecting the vertical support members and the horizontal support members to form an array, the joint members accommodating the insertion ends of the vertical support members and horizontal support members therewithin; and

a pet support structure comprising a pet support surface and an attachment mechanism operably attached thereto, wherein the attachment mechanism is removably attached to at least one of the vertical support members or the horizontal support members for maintaining the pet support surface in a position with respect to the frame structure.

2. (Original) The modular pet furniture of claim 1, wherein the attachment mechanism comprises:

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a support frame having an outer perimeter, wherein the pet support surface is operably attached to the support frame; and
a plurality of support legs extending from the support frame.

3. (Currently Amended) The modular pet furniture of claim 2, ~~wherein at least one of the horizontal support members has a nonterminal aperture formed therein and~~ wherein the non-terminal aperture receives one of the support legs.

4. (Original) The modular pet furniture of claim 1, wherein the pet support surface is removably attached to the attachment means.

5. (Original) The modular pet furniture of claim 1, and further comprising a pet enclosure mounted with respect to the pet support surface to at least partially enclose the pet support surface.

6. (Original) The modular pet furniture of claim 1, wherein the pet support surface is fabricated from fabricate or plastic.

7. (Previously Presented) The modular pet furniture of claim 1, wherein the vertical support members and the horizontal support members are secured to the joint members with solvent cement, twist lock connectors, or set-screw fittings.

8. (Previously Presented) The modular pet furniture of claim 1 wherein the vertical support members, the horizontal support members, and the joint members are fabricated from plastic, wood, metal, or combinations thereof.

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9. (Previously Presented) The modular pet furniture of claim 1, wherein the attachment mechanism allows the pet support structure to be selectively positioned with respect to the frame structure.

10. (Previously Presented) A pet furniture frame structure comprising:

a plurality of vertical support members, each vertical support member having an insertion end;

a plurality of horizontal support members, each horizontal support member having an insertion end, at least one of said horizontal support members defining a nonterminal aperture;

a plurality of joint members accommodating the insertion ends of the vertical support members and the horizontal support members therewithin, thereby interconnecting the vertical support members and the horizontal support members to form an array of support regions; and

a plurality of pet support surfaces removably attached in the support regions.

11. (Original) The pet furniture frame structure of claim 10, wherein a bed structure is removably mounted in the support region.

12. (Original) The pet furniture frame structure of claim 10, wherein a scratch pad is removably mounted in the support region.

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13. (Currently Amended) A method of forming modular pet furniture comprising:

interconnecting a plurality of horizontal support members and a plurality of vertical support members using a plurality of joint members accommodating insertion ends of the horizontal support members and vertical support members therewithin, thereby forming a frame, at least one of said horizontal support member having a non-terminal aperture;

attaching a bed structure to at least one horizontal support member, and

fastening a pet support to the bed structure.

14. (Original) The method of forming modular pet furniture according to claim 13, further comprising attaching a fabric to at least one horizontal cross member to form a scratch pad.

15. (Original) The method of forming modular pet furniture according to claim 13, and further comprising attaching a platform to the top of the modular pet bed frame.